

Quarter/Quarter Change

Wages are reported by employers on a quarterly (3 month) basis. When an individual applies for unemployment benefits the claim will be based on four quarters of wages, called the "Base Period". The base period is always the first 4 of the last 5 completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the effective date of the claim. "Quarter Change" occurs on the first Sunday of January, April, July, and October; at that time the oldest quarter of wages drops off and a more recent quarter is added.